

Please replace the abstract with the following amended abstract:

An apparatus and process for forming a coating on a substrate, including ~~a fluidising chamber for establishing a fluidised-bed comprising~~ having a fluidising gas and a powder coating composition, ~~means for immersing the substrate wholly or partly in the fluidised bed, the substrate being either electrically isolated or earthed, providing an electrically conductive electrode, to which a voltage is applied, positioned to influence the extent to which charged particles adhere to a region of the substrate, means for applying the voltage to the electrode, means for withdrawing the substrate from the fluidised-bed and means for forming the adherent particles into a continuous coating over at least part of the substrate.~~ The the apparatus being is arranged and the process is conducted such that the maximum potential gradient existing in the fluidised bed is below the ionisation potential of the fluidising gas. ~~Also disclosed is a process for forming a coating on a substrate employing this apparatus.~~